166472

STIC EIC 2100
Search Request Form

Today's Date: 9/21/05

What date would you like to use to limit the search?

Priority Date: 12/29/00 Other:

Name Ramy Osman

AU 2157 Examiner # 98795

Room # RND 4B69 Phone x4008

Serial # 09/751,989

Format for Search Results (Circle One):

PAPER DISK EMAIL

Where have you searched so far?

USP DWPI EPO JPO [✓ ACM] IBM TDB [✓ IEEE] INSPEC SPI Other

Is this a "Fast & Focused" Search Request? (Circle One) [✓ YES] NO

A "Fast & Focused" Search is completed in 2-3 hours (maximum). The search must be on a very specific topic and meet certain criteria. The criteria are posted in EIC2100 and on the EIC2100 NPL Web Page at http://ptoweb/patents/stic/stic-tc2100.htm.

What is the topic, novelty, motivation, utility, or other specific details defining the desired focus of this search? Please include the concepts, synonyms, keywords, acronyms, definitions, strategies, and anything else that helps to describe the topic. Please attach a copy of the abstract, background, brief summary, pertinent claims and any citations of relevant art you have found.

Claim 30

STIC Searcher Geoffrey St. Leger Phone 23540

Date picked up 9/21/05 Date Completed 9/21/5

```
File 347:JAPIO Nov 1976-2005/Apr(Updated 050801)
         (c) 2005 JPO & JAPIO
File 350:Derwent WPIX 1963-2005/UD,UM &UP=200560
         (c) 2005  Thomson Derwent

Set      Items   Description
S1       29957   EMAIL? ? OR (E OR ELECTRONIC)()MAIL? ?
S2         133   S1(5N)(FAKE? ? OR PHONY OR FALSE OR BOGUS OR ALIAS OR TEMP-
             ORARY OR SINGLEUSE OR SINGLE()USE OR ANONYM? OR SPOOF??? OR O-
             NETIME OR ONE()TIME)
S3      697140   RECIPIENT? ? OR RECEIVER? ? OR TARGET? ? OR DESTINATION OR
             ADDRESSEE OR RECEIVING()(PARTY OR PARTIES OR ENTITY OR ENTITI-
             ES OR PERSON? ? OR INDIVIDUAL? ? OR USER? ? OR CLIENT? ?)
S4      173676   SERVER? ? OR MAILSERVER? ?
S5          29   S2 AND S3 AND S4
S6           4   S5 AND AC=US/PR AND AY=(1970:2000)/PR
S7           5   S5 AND AC=US AND AY=1970:2000
S8           5   S5 AND AC=US AND AY=(1970:2000)/PR
S9           8   S5 AND PY=1970:2000
S10         12   S6:S9
S11         92   S2 AND S3:S4
S12         63   S11 NOT S5
S13          8   S12 AND AC=US/PR AND AY=(1970:2000)/PR
S14          8   S12 AND AC=US AND AY=1970:2000
S15          8   S12 AND AC=US AND AY=(1970:2000)/PR
S16         16   S12 AND PY=1970:2000
S17         19   S13:S16
```

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File   8:Ei Compendex(R) 1970-2005/Sep W2
         (c) 2005 Elsevier Eng.  Info. Inc.
File  35:Dissertation Abs Online 1861-2005/Aug
         (c) 2005 ProQuest Info&Learning
File  65:Inside Conferences 1993-2005/Sep W3
         (c) 2005 BLDSC all rts. reserv.
File   2:INSPEC 1969-2005/Sep W2
         (c) 2005 Institution of Electrical Engineers
File  94:JICST-EPlus 1985-2005/Jul W4
         (c)2005 Japan Science and Tech Corp(JST)
File   6:NTIS 1964-2005/Sep W2
         (c) 2005 NTIS, Intl Cpyrght All Rights Res
File 144:Pascal 1973-2005/Sep W2
         (c) 2005 INIST/CNRS
File 434:SciSearch(R) Cited Ref Sci 1974-1989/Dec
         (c) 1998 Inst for Sci Info
File  34:SciSearch(R) Cited Ref Sci 1990-2005/Sep W2
         (c) 2005 Inst for Sci Info
File  99:Wilson Appl. Sci & Tech Abs 1983-2005/Jul
         (c) 2005 The HW Wilson Co.
File 266:FEDRIP 2005/Jun
         Comp & dist by NTIS, Intl Copyright All Rights Res
File  95:TEME-Technology & Management 1989-2005/Aug W2
         (c) 2005 FIZ TECHNIK
File 256:TecInfoSource 82-2005/Sep
         (c) 2005 Info.Sources Inc

Set     Items   Description
S1      54468   EMAIL? ? OR (E OR ELECTRONIC)()MAIL? ?
S2        187   S1(5N)(FAKE? ? OR PHONY OR FALSE OR BOGUS OR ALIAS OR TEMP-
             ORARY OR SINGLEUSE OR SINGLE()USE OR ANONYM? OR SPOOF??? OR O-
             NETIME OR ONE()TIME OR DISPOSABLE OR EXPIRE OR EXPIRING)
S3    1390953   RECIPIENT? ? OR RECEIVER? ? OR TARGET? ? OR DESTINATION OR
             ADDRESSEE OR RECEIVING()(PARTY OR PARTIES OR ENTITY OR ENTITI-
             ES OR PERSON? ? OR INDIVIDUAL? ? OR USER? ? OR CLIENT? ?)
S4     151810   SERVER? ? OR MAILSERVER? ?
S5         75   S2 AND S3:S4
S6         64   RD (unique items)
S7         35   S6 NOT PY=2001:2005
S8         26   S7 NOT PD=2001:2005
S9        112   S2 NOT S5
S10        93   RD (unique items)
S11        49   S10 NOT PY=2001:2005
```

8/5/1 (Item 1 from file: 8)
DIALOG(R)File 8:Ei Compendex(R)

05403922 E.I. No: E2099104860980
Title: Design, implementation and operation of an Email pseudonym server
Author: Mazieres, David; Kaashoek, M. Frans
Corporate Source: MIT Lab for Computer Science, Cambridge, MA, USA
Conference Title: Proceedings of the 1998 5th ACM Conference on Computer and Communications Security, CCS-5
Conference Location: San Francisco, CA, USA Conference Date: 19981103-19981105
Sponsor: ACM SIGSAC
E.I. Conference No.: 55056
Source: Proceedings of the ACM Conference on Computer and Communications Security 1998. ACM, New York, NY, USA. p 27-36
Publication Year: 1998
CODEN: 002180
Language: English
Document Type: CA; (Conference Article) Treatment: T; (Theoretical)
Journal Announcement: 9912W1
Abstract: Attacks on **servers** that provide anonymity generally fall into two categories: attempts to expose anonymous users and attempts to silence them. Much existing work concentrates on withstanding the former, but the threat of the latter is equally real. One particularly effective attack against anonymous **servers** is to abuse them and stir up enough trouble that they must shut down. This paper describes the design, implementation, and operation of nym. **alias** .net, a **server** providing untraceable **email** aliases. We enumerate many kinds of abuse the system has weathered during two years of operation, and explain the measures we enacted in response. From our experiences, we distill several principles by which one can protect anonymous **servers** from similar attacks. (Author abstract) 15 Refs.
Descriptors: *Client **server** computer systems; Electronic mail; Computer systems programming; Security of data; Internet
Identifiers: Electronic mail pseudonym **servers**
Classification Codes:
722.4 (Digital Computers & Systems); 723.5 (Computer Applications); 723.1 (Computer Programming); 723.2 (Data Processing)
722 (Computer Hardware); 723 (Computer Software)
72 (COMPUTERS & DATA PROCESSING)

8/5/5 (Item 1 from file: 2)
DIALOG(R)File 2:INSPEC

08022928 INSPEC Abstract Number: B2001-10-6210L-106, C2001-10-5620W-049
Title: Bilateral anonymity and prevention of abusing logged Web addresses
Author(s): Demuth, T.; Rieke, A.
Author Affiliation: Dept. of Commun. Syst., Hagen Univ., Germany
Conference Title: MILCOM 2000 Proceedings. 21st Century Military Communications. Architectures and Technologies for Information Superiority (Cat. No.00CH37155) Part vol.1 p.435-9 vol.1
Publisher: IEEE, Piscataway, NJ, USA
Publication Date: 2000 Country of Publication: USA 2 vol. xxvii+1238 pp.
ISBN: 0 7803 6521 6 Material Identity Number: XX-2000-02174
U.S. Copyright Clearance Center Code: 0 7803 6521 6/2000/$10.00
Conference Title: Proceedings of IEEE Military Communications Conference (MILCOM'00)
Conference Sponsor: IEEE Commun. Soc.; Armed Forces Commun. & Electron. Assoc. (AFCEA)
Conference Date: 22-25 Oct. 2000 Conference Location: Los Angeles, CA, USA

Language: English   Document Type: Conference Paper (PA)
Treatment: Theoretical (T)

Abstract: A lot of effort has been taken to hide the content of a message from eavesdroppers. However, often not only the content, but also the address and identity of sender and/or **receiver** of the message are of interest for attackers. For that reason, several approaches were developed to guarantee **anonymity** in the case of **email** . A lot of services offer users to access Web pages unrecognised or without the risk of being backtracked, respectively. This kind of anonymity is called user or "client anonymity". However, there are only a few offers that provide an equivalent protection for content providers, although this feature is desirable for many situations in which the identity of a publisher or content provider is to be hidden. This property is called **server** anonymity. The term " **server** anonymity" is explained in detail with the help of an existing system fulfilling some hundreds of thousand user requests per day. We also describe our experiences in providing such a system with respect to misuse. Furthermore there is another sensitive fact. While browsing Web pages, the used URLs are logged both by the Web client (Web browser) which is used and the Internet service provider (ISP), or any other instance or organisation that is involved in the communication. Hence the ISP can investigate the content a user is interested in afterwards simply by reusing the logged URLs. The same problem results from the behaviour of regular Web browsers to build an address history and local copies (browser cache) of the visited Web pages. We demonstrate a way of preventing the reuse of logged Web addresses by introducing the concept of temporarily valid Web addresses. (11 Refs)

Subfile: B C

Descriptors: file **servers** ; information resources; Internet; online front-ends; security of data; telecommunication security

Identifiers: bilateral anonymity; logged Web address abuse prevention; e-mail; Web pages; client anonymity; content providers; **server** anonymity; Web browser; Internet service provider; ISP; URL; address history; logged Web address; temporarily valid Web address; World Wide Web; WWW; data security

Class Codes: B6210L (Computer communications); C5620W (Other computer networks); C7210N (Information networks); C7250N (Search engines); C6130S (Data security); C5630 (Networking equipment)

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8/5/11 (Item 7 from file: 2)
DIALOG(R)File 2:INSPEC
(c) 2005 Institution of Electrical Engineers. All rts. reserv.

05740657 INSPEC Abstract Number: B9410-6210G-003, C9410-7210-008

Title: Concepts of the NIST EXPRESS server

Author(s): Libes, D.

Author Affiliation: Factory Autom. Syst. Div., Nat. Inst. of Stand. & Technol., Gaithersburg, MD, USA

p.26-31

Publisher: IEEE Comput. Soc. Press, Los Alamitos, CA, USA

Publication Date: 1994 Country of Publication: USA viii+187 pp.

ISBN: 0 8186 5835 5

U.S. Copyright Clearance Center Code: 0 8186 5835 5/94/$03.00

Conference Title: Proceedings of IEEE Workshop on Services for Distributed and Networked Environments

Conference Sponsor: IEEE Comput. Soc. Tech. Committee on Distributed Process.; Czech Inst. Technol. (CVUT)

Conference Date: 27-28 June 1994 Conference Location: Prague, Czech Republic

Language: English   Document Type: Conference Paper (PA)
Treatment: Practical (P); Product Review (R)

Abstract: The NIST EXPRESS **server** is a computational facility at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), which provides the ability to run toolkit-based applications remotely. Users e-mail EXPRESS schemas and other data files to the **server** , which runs the requested applications on the files and returns any diagnostics or output. Applications requiring interaction can either be returned via e-mail so that they can be run locally, or run remotely by telnet or rlogin across the Internet. Access to the EXPRESS **server** is available free to anyone who can send **e - mail** . Use is **anonymous** by default, however it is possible to use the **server** as a collaborative testbed in which case results can be immediately shared with other **server** users. The **server** is capable of restricting file access to one user or a subset of users. It is also possible to make files publicly available. The **server** maintains many STEP-related standards and draft standards for public access. Machine-processable standards such as STEP schemas can be incorporated automatically when processing user files even if they are not publicly available. The **server** dramatically lowers the traditional start-up cost and manpower required to obtain and install STEP and EXPRESS tools as well as the continuing support costs to upgrade and maintain the software, by leveraging NIST research, software support and installation, and computing facilities. The **server** enables people to experiment or demonstrate STEP without a significant investment of time and money, allowing them to build experience and make informed decisions about their future needs for STEP.

```
File 275:Gale Group Computer DB(TM) 1983-2005/Sep 20
         (c) 2005 The Gale Group
File 621:Gale Group New Prod.Annou.(R) 1985-2005/Sep 21
         (c) 2005 The Gale Group
File 636:Gale Group Newsletter DB(TM) 1987-2005/Sep 20
         (c) 2005 The Gale Group
File  16:Gale Group PROMT(R) 1990-2005/Sep 20
         (c) 2005 The Gale Group
File 160:Gale Group PROMT(R) 1972-1989
         (c) 1999 The Gale Group
File 148:Gale Group Trade & Industry DB 1976-2005/Sep 21
         (c)2005 The Gale Group
File 624:McGraw-Hill Publications 1985-2005/Sep 21
         (c) 2005 McGraw-Hill Co. Inc
File  15:ABI/Inform(R) 1971-2005/Sep 21
         (c) 2005 ProQuest Info&Learning
File 647:CMP  Computer Fulltext 1988-2005/Sep W1
         (c) 2005 CMP Media, LLC
File 674:Computer News Fulltext 1989-2005/Sep W2
         (c) 2005 IDG Communications
File 696:DIALOG Telecom. Newsletters 1995-2005/Sep 21
         (c) 2005 Dialog
File 369:New Scientist 1994-2005/Jun W3
         (c) 2005 Reed Business Information Ltd.
File 810:Business Wire 1986-1999/Feb 28
         (c) 1999 Business Wire
File 813:PR Newswire 1987-1999/Apr 30
         (c) 1999 PR Newswire Association Inc
File 610:Business Wire 1999-2005/Sep 21
         (c) 2005 Business Wire.
File 613:PR Newswire 1999-2005/Sep 21
         (c) 2005 PR Newswire Association Inc

Set     Items   Description
S1    2850802   EMAIL? ? OR (E OR ELECTRONIC)()MAIL? ?
S2       9180   S1(5N)(FAKE? ? OR PHONY OR FALSE OR BOGUS OR ALIAS OR TEMP-
             ORARY OR SINGLEUSE OR SINGLE()USE OR ANONYM? OR SPOOF??? OR O-
             NETIME OR ONE()TIME)
S3    3154909   RECIPIENT? ? OR RECEIVER? ? OR TARGET? ? OR DESTINATION OR
             ADDRESSEE OR RECEIVING()(PARTY OR PARTIES OR ENTITY OR ENTITI-
             ES OR PERSON? ? OR INDIVIDUAL? ? OR USER? ? OR CLIENT? ?)
S4    1967791   SERVER? ? OR MAILSERVER? ?
S5          7   SPAMMOTEL
S6          3   RD (unique items)
S7          8   SNEAKEMAIL
S8          4   RD (unique items)
S9          3   S8 NOT S6
S10       205   S1(5N)DISPOSABLE
S11        94   RD (unique items)
S12        13   S11 NOT PY=2001:2005
S13        70   MATTERFORM
S14        44   S1(30N)S13
S15        21   RD (unique items)
S16         1   S15 AND PY=1997
S17         8   EMAILIAS
S18         3   RD (unique items)
S19        54   SPAMEX
S20        26   RD (unique items)
S21        42   S1(20N)S19
S22        19   S20 AND S21
S23         6   S22 AND PY=1998
S24      1144   S2(50N)S3
S25       580   RD (unique items)
S26       164   S25 NOT PY=2001:2005
S27      7020   S1(3N)(FAKE? ? OR PHONY OR FALSE OR BOGUS OR ALIAS OR SING-
                  LEUSE OR SINGLE()USE OR ANONYM? OR SPOOF??? OR ONETIME OR ONE-
                  ()TIME)
S28          127   S26 AND S27
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28/9/11 (Item 11 from file: 275)
DIALOG(R)File 275:Gale Group Computer DB(TM)
(c) 2005 The Gale Group. All rts. reserv.

02317298 SUPPLIER NUMBER: 55276926 (THIS IS THE FULL TEXT)
The Anonymous Internet.(free anonymous browsers and remailing services)(Internet/Web/Online Service Information)
PC Magazine, 18, 15, 107
Sept 1, 1999
ISSN: 0888-8507 LANGUAGE: English RECORD TYPE: Fulltext
WORD COUNT: 417 LINE COUNT: 00037

TEXT:

Angela Graven and John Morris

Even if you use the tools reviewed in our main story and follow all of the tips, you'll inevitably give out some private information. To remain incognito on the Internet, you need to use an anonymous browser and a remailer.

An anonymous browsing service stands between your browser and Web sites. To use one, you visit the service and enter the URL of the site you want to view. Although slow, the service automatically blocks downloadable content such as Java and JavaScript, thereby preventing the site from capturing personal data.

There are several free anonymous browsing services, such as Aixs Net Privacy (http://aixs.net/aixs), and Janus (www.rewebber.de). Perhaps the best known, Anonymizer (www.anonymizer.com), offers a free service and a faster fee-based service ($49.99 direct for one year).

Lucent Personalized Web Assistant (http://lpwa.com:8000) is a unique solution that preserves your anonymity while still delivering a personalized Web experience. For sites requiring registration in exchange for information, it generates fake user names, passwords, and e-mail addresses based on your "secret" (a universal password), the site you're visiting, and your real e-mail address. By the time you read this, LPWA will be a for-fee service called ProxyMate (www.proxymate.com).

Using a different approach to hide your identity, a remailer deletes your information in the header of the e-mail message, then forwards the message to the recipient. A pseudo-anonymous remailer's host knows your identity. A truly anonymous remailer forwards messages through multiple remailers, making it impossible to trace them back to the actual sender.

Like their browsing counterparts, remailers are free but slow, taking several days to get the message to its **destination** . Examples of some remailers include **Anonymizer** (www. **anonymizer** .com), Send **Anonymous Email** (www.ozemail.com.au/~geoffk/anon/anon.html), and Replay (www.replay.com). The **recipient** has no way to reply to messages sent from these remailers. If you would like a reply, you can learn how to insert special commands in your e-mail (www.replay.com/remailer/chain.html).

Some might prefer to send anonymous messages via a free, Web-based e-mail account, such as those from Yahoo! Mail or Hotmail . These are easier to use, and your e-mail won't get held up for days wending its way through multiple remailers.

Even a chemical formula can be v-GO's visual password. Just click on the right elements to unlock.

GEOGRAPHIC CODES/NAMES: 1USA United States
DESCRIPTORS: Internet/Web technology application; E-mail
EVENT CODES/NAMES: 360 Services information
PRODUCT/INDUSTRY NAMES: 7372681 (Internet Access Software); 4811520 (Online Services); 7372605 (Electronic Mail Software)
NAICS CODES: 51121 Software Publishers; 514191 On-Line Information Services
FILE SEGMENT: CD File 275
?

28/9/36 (Item 11 from file: 621)
DIALOG(R)File 621:Gale Group New Prod.Annou.(R)

02219308 Supplier Number: 57094241 (THIS IS THE FULLTEXT)
Privada(TM) Delivers Personal Privacy With New Anonymous Email **Service.**
PR Newswire, p4895
Nov 2, 1999
Language: English Record Type: Fulltext
Document Type: Newswire; Trade
Word Count: 774
TEXT:
Privada's Messaging Incognito(TM) for Consumers Provides Industry's Most Effective POP3 **Anonymous Email** Solution

SAN JOSE, Calif., Nov. 2 /PRNewswire/ -- Privada, Inc. today announced Messaging Incognito, a new **anonymous email** service that gives users the ability to protect their personal privacy while sending emails via the Internet. Messaging Incognito is the fully reliable private email solution based on the popular POP3 email protocol (which means that users can continue using their favorite email readers), and also one of the first to allow **recipients** to reply to an **anonymous email** address. Priced at $5 per month, the new service allows anyone to keep their real-world identity private as they communicate via the Internet. The first 2,500 users to sign up for Messaging Incognito will receive their first year of service free, after rebate.

Messaging Incognito allows users to create an online alias in order to keep their real-world identity private. Without Messaging Incognito, it is easy to determine an individual's real-world identity from pieces of information found in a normal email.

"Internet users and the industry can no longer be laissez-faire about protecting online privacy," said Barbara Bellissimo, CEO of Privada. "With more and more sites tracking, storing and sharing site usage and e-mail communication, consumers need to be decisive about what personal information they share online. Messaging Incognito is a new service that allows consumers to take control over their personal information and provide this information only to the people they trust."

Messaging Incognito is a bi-directional, email service that allows people to send and receive **email** privately and **anonymously** , without changing their existing POP3 email application. It is delivered using PrivadaProxy(TM) -- free Java-based client software that brings privacy to the desktop. PrivadaProxy protects the user's privacy from the moment the email leaves the user's machine.

Privada also offers Web Incognito(TM), the company's robust anonymous Web browsing service. Together, Messaging Incognito and Web Incognito are a complete online privacy solution for businesses and consumers. When used together, these two products make it easy for anyone to access the vast power of the Internet without sacrificing privacy. An individual user can visit many sites, even asking questions via email, before deciding which site to do business with. Corporations can conduct research and communicate among remote locations confidentially.

The only identifying information email recipients receive from Privada users is the user's anonymous Privada ID and the IP address of the Privada Network. This Privada IP address is not individual to each user and cannot be used to establish a person's real-world identity. However, the user's anonymous Privada ID is specific to each Privada customer. This ID cannot be used to identify the real-world identity of the user, but rather is intended to ensure the validity and consistency of a message's sender. All outgoing Privada messages are digitally signed with a key that is unique to the Privada user -- a further assurance of the consistency of the user, as well as providing strong non-repudiation.

Messaging Incognito is one of the first **anonymous email** services to let users send and receive messages. Competing technologies are not 100% effective, and can often easily be disabled. Privada delivers not only effective privacy, but also protects the processing and integrity of all messages sent through the Privada Network. Privada's messaging solutions will not alter messages in any way. If the consumer has encrypted the content of the message using any standard encryption package (such as PGP), that encryption will also remain intact.

In the past, many Internet users concerned with online privacy have created extra email aliases with free Web-based services, such as Microsoft's HotMail. The recent security breach at HotMail (hackers revealed a security hole that enables anyone to view any Hotmail email account without a password) demonstrates that these services do not have the architecture necessary for true online privacy. Privada's Messaging Incognito uses the latest security technologies and Privada's patent-pending privacy architecture to protect its customers' online identities. Messaging Incognito compartmentalizes and encrypts each user's information separately, making Messaging Incognito much more effective privacy protection than web-based email.

Pricing and Availability:

Messaging Incognito for consumers is available immediately. The cost for the service is $5 per month, and will be free for the first year (after rebate) to the first 2,500 users. The PrivadaProxy software is free.

About Privada

A privately held company, Privada was established in 1997 to develop technologies and services that enable users to protect and control the dissemination of their personal information over the Internet. Businesses and consumers can benefit from using Privada's unique, patent-pending technologies. For more information on Privada, visit the company's Web site at www.privada.net.

PUBLISHER NAME: PR Newswire Association, Inc.
COMPANY NAMES: *Privada Inc.
INDUSTRY NAMES: BUS (Business, General); BUSN (Any type of business)

28/9/69 (Item 3 from file: 148)
DIALOG(R)File 148:Gale Group Trade & Industry DB
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11624353 SUPPLIER NUMBER: 58383133 (THIS IS THE FULL TEXT)
Anonymous e - mail **now a reality.(Brief Article)**
Computer Dealer News, 15, 46, 36
Dec 3, 1999
DOCUMENT TYPE: Brief Article ISSN: 1184-2369 LANGUAGE: English
RECORD TYPE: Fulltext
WORD COUNT: 79 LINE COUNT: 00009

TEXT:

TWICKENHAM, U.K. -- A couple of lads from Britain have launched a new Web site that hopes to capitalize on the surprising amount of vitriol that's out there on the Web.

Their new Web site, aptly named www.poisonpen.net, offers users the ability to send **anonymous e - mails** without fear of having them traced back to the source.

The service is aimed at ex-girlfriends, ex-boyfriends, disgruntled employees, **targets** of unwanted sexual advances and ticked-off people everywhere.

INDUSTRY CODES/NAMES: BUSN Any type of business; CMPT Computers and Office Automation; INTL Business, International; RETL Retailing
FILE SEGMENT: TI File 148

28/9/110 (Item 2 from file: 647)
DIALOG(R)File 647:CMP Computer Fulltext
(c) 2005 CMP Media, LLC. All rts. reserv.

01103695 CMP ACCESSION NUMBER: NTG19960901S0068

Multiple E-Mail Addresses: Stop the Insanity! - You can trust your alias e - mail **address to follow you like your shadow** (cool tools)

Rich Santalesa
NETGUIDE, 1996, n 309, PG125
PUBLICATION DATE: 960901
JOURNAL CODE: NTG LANGUAGE: English
RECORD TYPE: Fulltext
SECTION HEADING: Cool Tools
WORD COUNT: 1185

TEXT:

In the plodding B.I. (Before Internet) era, stable e-mail addresses were a fact of life. Mail gateways then, as now, were common but tied primarily into commercial e-mail services-CompuServe, MCI Mail, EasyLink, and a handful of others. Hard as it is to believe, in

the B.I. days folks held onto addresses for years, even dragging them along from job to job. Today, e-mail addresses change more often than some people change their socks.

Switch jobs, change e-mail. Switch ISPs, change e-mail. It's Thursday? Time to change your e-mail address. What can you do to stop this madness and let your friends and acquaintances keep up with your e-mail jumps? Simple. Just create a mail alias.

Mac, OS/2, and Windows 95 users are already familiar with the alias concept, though Windows 95 and OS/2 dub them "shortcuts." Aliases are essentially pointers. On the Mac, aliases are small files, stored anywhere for your convenience, which link to the real file located elsewhere. Mail aliases work the same way, using e-mail addresses instead of files. Any mail sent to an **alias** address, which resembles any other e - **mail** address, immediately forwards your correspondence to the e-mail address you've selected as the end **destination** . Starting to see how useful this is?

picking the right alias

With the right mail **alias** , chopping the bouncing **e - mail** problem down to size is child's play. Play your alias cards right and you'll have a nearly permanent e-mail address regardless of how many ISPs or jobs you zip through. Just don't confuse the two main types of mail aliases, which I divide into internal and external aliases.

An internal alias created at your current e-mail account is extremely handy, but it doesn't tackle changing addresses. An internal **alias** allows one **e - mail** address to serve multiple purposes while helping to consolidate mail. Let's look at an example to see the big picture.

In my spare time I write a newsletter called RichNet covering New York City and other topics. Through my ISP, I set up a free alias specifically for RichNet mail. Any mail sent to the alias richnet@ interramp.com still lands in my regular e-mailbox, rsantale@ interramp.com, but filtering my mail is now much easier. Think of internal aliases as basically a second slot on a real mailbox, and you've mastered the idea of giving one e-mail account multiple addresses.

Keeping the same e-mail address for life, however, requires an external alias-the ultimate power in mail forwarding. An external alias creates an outside mail drop-outside your ISP, that is-similar to real-world P.O. boxes that have the additional power to forward mail. A side benefit of external aliases is rather slick: With an external alias, your America Online, CompuServe, or Prodigy account can be easily "Internetized." Define the alias address (for example, joel@sol.com), print it on your business cards, and then sit back and pick up the forwarded mail from within the familiar comfort of AOL, CompuServe, or Prodigy.

the free and the cheap

Shop around and you can create an external alias for free. In fact, various organizations offer external aliasing as a benefit of membership. For example, the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (www.ieee.org) hands out free external aliases to its members. For engineers who might switch jobs every few years, a stable jdoe@ieee.org address can be a crucial means of maintaining contact with colleagues. IEEE members who want an external alias can have one created by simply firing a message to aliases@ieee.org. Include your forwarding e-mail address, name, phone, fax, and member number.

Other organizations charge a minimal annual fee. Members of the Association for Computing Machinery, a popular academic computing organization, can sign up for an @acm.org alias for $10 per year (www.acm.org/acmns_info/mailforwarding.html). If you belong to a club or organization boasting an online presence, check if aliases are offered. You could be pleasantly surprised.

Of course, using an organization-based alias is perfect if you plan to be a proud member through the ages. If not, the number of companies providing alias services grows each month.

Bigfoot for Life is a new service that launched in June with a splash (see "Bigfoot Goes Where You Go," August, page 40). Bigfoot (www.bigfoot.com) offers a free, "permanent" **e - mail alias** as part of its program. To start, register your name, password, new e-mail address (name@bigfoot.com), and forwarding e-mail address in its directory, and Bigfoot will send a confirmation e-mail (if all goes well). Then, whenever your e-mail address changes, a quick visit to Bigfoot's Web site is all it takes to update the mailbox pointed to by your bigfoot.com

alias. The catch, if you want to call it one, is that in exchange for this e-mail largesse, Bigfoot builds up a directory of Internet users that it hopes will attract more visitors, which in turn will attract advertisers to the Bigfoot site.

Paranoid about e-mail directories or need special forwarding abilities? Try USA.NET (www.usa.net), which offers a variety of aliasing and forwarding plans. A single basic alias with forwarding and filtering costs $18 per year. The next level, priced at $30 per year, adds a second forwarding address with a filtering option and the ability to read mail directly from the alias e-mailbox via standard POP/SMTP mail software. Finally, for $36 per year you also can read your mail using any Web browser.

Teleport (www.teleport.com/support/ **email / alias** .htm), an ISP, charges a one-time fee of $25 per alias, with no limit to the number of aliases you can purchase. But Pobox (www.pobox.com) might be a better bargain. For $15 a year (your initial three months are free), it'll dole out three alias addresses of your choosing (for example, ham@pobox.com, cheese@pobox.com, and mayo@pobox.com).

In the strange-but-true department, Pobox allows aliases containing thousands of characters in length. Why anyone would need an address that long is beyond my ken. Even so, you can sign up for Pobox aliases via e-mail. Drop a line to new @pobox.com, listing your requested aliases, forwarding address, and any other information you'd like to include. A second set of three aliases is only $7 per year.

In addition, Pobox is one of the few alias providers with URL redirection as part of the price of its service. URL redirection allows you to move your home Web pages from ISP to ISP while maintaining a constant URL. Smart stuff.

A somewhat different alias service has been dreamed up by VanityMail (www.vanitymail.com). VanityMail provides aliases but combines them with a domain name from VanityMail's long list of names. The result is you can create a custom, descriptive alias for a one-time setup fee of $10.95, with a monthly charge of $6.51.

keeping tabs

If everyone used aliases, staying in touch with friends, co-workers , and acquaintances would be downright easy. When all else fails, however, try jumping over to one of the Internet e-mail directories, such as DoubleClick Inc.'s Internet Address Finder (www.iaf.net) or Four11 (www.four11.com). I've found them useful for tracking people, though the listed e-mail addresses are often not the person's latest , greatest address.

Happy e-mailing.

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